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PATENT APPLICATION
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiko YANAGISAWA

Group Art Unit: 2826

Application No.: 09/674,924

Examiner: Alexander O. Williams

Filed: November 8, 2000

Docket No.: 105013

For: FLEXIBLE INTERCONNECT SUBSTRATE, FILM CARRIER, TAPE-SHAPED SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, CIRCUIT BOARD, AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed February 25, 2002, Applicant provisionally elects the Species of Figure 1. At least claims 1-7, 10, 13, 16, 19 and 22-24 read on the elected species. This election is made with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 13, 2002

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